

Application No. 09/645,896
Examiner Stevens, Thomas H.
Response to Final Action dated November 3, 2005

B-200223

REMARKS

At the outset, a new Power of Attorney to the undersigned attorneys will be submitted in the present application in due course.

Claims 1-15, including independent claims 1, 7 and 13, are pending in the application. In the Final Office Action dated November 3, 2005, all claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Gold* (6,684,182). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 1 is directed to a method of simulating the operation of a spacecraft that includes requesting a connection to one of a plurality of simulated ground stations, generating a range server name, in response to the range server name, generating server location parameters and instantiating a range server dedicated to a single ground station. The method further includes calculating the range data for each of the plurality of simulated ground stations and providing the range data for one of the plurality of simulated ground stations. The Examiner is directed to page 2 of the present application which describes the need for the present system. This paragraph states that there is a need to simulate the operation of various ranging and antenna systems at various times to provide a complete simulation of the system. Ranging is performed in an actual application by two or more ground stations that are used to improve the determination of the position of the spacecraft.

Independent Claims 7 and 13 contain similar limitations to the range data and range server. Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion for a range server or range data within the *Gold* reference. This is not surprising since the *Gold* reference focus was in simulating the operation of the spacecraft and not simulating the operation of the spacecraft in a complete world-wide system having a range server.

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The Examiner asserts that the *Gold* reference (at Col. 3, lines 60-65) discloses generating a range server name. Applicant has reviewed lines 60-65 and can find no teaching or suggestion for generating a range server name and in response to the range server name, generating serve location parameters. While it is true that the *Gold* reference refers to TCP/IP protocols, the *Gold* reference does not teach or suggest a range server. The simulations carried forth in the *Gold* reference perform telemetry and command applications. The telemetry and command applications are simulated with respect to a ground station. However, the present invention goes beyond this and actually simulates range servers. Range servers are located in various locations throughout the world and thus, actual operation of the entire system may be simulated rather than just communications with a ground station.

For the step of instantiating a range server dedicated to a single ground station, the Examiner points to Col. 5, lines 14-22 of the *Gold* reference. However, no teaching or suggestion of instantiating is provided in the referenced passage.

The Examiner asserts that Col. 6, lines 46-58, and Col. 3, lines 37-39 of the *Gold* reference disclose the step of providing the range data for one of the plurality of simulated ground stations in response to a unique port address. This is also not taught or suggested in these passages.

Therefore, the *Gold* reference does not disclose, teach or suggest several of the elements recited in independent Claims 1, 7 and 13. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to carefully reconsider the above argument so that an appeal may be avoided.

Likewise, the dependent claims are also believed to be allowable since they further limit their base independent claims.

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In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that all rejections are now overcome and the application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments which would place the application in better condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney. Please charge any fees required in the filing of this amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3195.

Dated: January 3, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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